

### REMARKS

Minor corrections have been made to the specification. Claims 1, 3 - 5, 8, 11, and 13 have been amended. Claims 2, 12, and 14 have been cancelled from the application without prejudice. Claims 15 - 37 have been added. No new matter has been introduced with these corrections, amendments, or added claims, which are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 1, 3 - 11, 13, and 15 - 37 are now in the application.

#### I. Objection to the Claims

Paragraph 1 of the Office Action dated October 10, 2003 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") states that Claims 1 - 10 are objected to because of informalities; in particular, "location" should be changed to "located" in line 5. Appropriate correction has been made herein, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection.

#### II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action states that Claims 1, 11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent 5,808,566 to Behr et al. Applicants respectfully submit that Behr does not teach their claimed invention; however, in view of paragraph 4 of the Office Action, "Allowable Subject Matter", which states that Claims 2 - 10, 12, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, Applicants have incorporated limitations from dependent Claims 2, 12, and 14 into independent Claims 1, 11, and 13 (respectively), such that all claims can pass to issuance without further delay.

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In the amendments made herein to independent Claims 1, 11, and 13, an additional phrase "from the intersection data when the path is not yet complete" has been added to the "selecting" limitation. This added phrase more clearly indicates that the "intersection point" is selected from the "intersection data" previously introduced on line 7, and also clarifies that this selecting is only performed if the path is not yet complete (which was implicit in the claims as originally filed).

The amendments to dependent Claims 3 - 5 and 8 are to provide proper antecedent basis, in view of the amendments made herein to independent Claim 1. Added Claims 15, 25, and 35 are supported in the specification as originally filed on p. 26, lines 12 - 16 and in Fig. 5, table 560. Added Claims 16, 26, and 36 are supported in the specification on p. 31, line 20 - p. 32, line 4. Added Claim 37 is supported in the specification on p. 22, lines 13 - 15 and p. 23, line 19 - 20. Added Claims 17 - 24 and 27 - 34 are system and computer program product versions, respectively, of method Claims 3 - 10, and thus are supported by the claims as originally filed.

Thus, it can be seen that no new matter has been introduced.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the §103(a) rejection of Claims 1, 11, and 13.

### III. Allowable Subject Matter

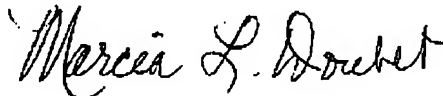
As discussed above, paragraph 4 of the Office Action states that Claims 2 - 10, 12, and 14

are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims. This objection has been addressed by incorporating limitations of Claims 2, 12, and 14 into Claims 1, 11, and 13. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw this objection.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of all claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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